Applies To: **2006 Ridgeline** – From VIN 2HJYK1...6H500001 thru 2HJYK1...6H536968 **September 21, 2005**

Steering Wheel Creak Noise

(Supersedes 05-029, dated August 30, 2005, to update the information marked with the black bar)

SYMPTOM

A creaking sound when pushing or pulling on the steering wheel.

PROBABLE CAUSE

The steering wheel finisher (chrome trim) rubs against the bottom of the airbag module.

CORRECTIVE ACTION

Add wool felt between the finisher and the steering wheel and to the airbag locator pins.

PARTS INFORMATION

T30 Torx Bolts (2 required): P/N 90134-S7S-N81
H/C 6831218

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Wool Felt (One roll will repair 5 vehicles)
P/N 06993-SA5-000, H/C 2086676

WARRANTY CLAIM INFORMATION

In warranty: The normal warranty applies.

OP#	Description	FRT	Template ID
510003	**For the RTL:** Remove the driver's airbag, apply wool felt, and reassemble.	0.4	05-029A
A	**For the RT/RTS:** Remove the driver's airbag, steering wheel, steering wheel finisher, apply wool felt, and reassemble; add	0.2	05-029B

Failed Part: P/N 78503-SJC-A11ZA
H/C 7992712

Defect Code: 07403

Symptom Code: 04205

Skill Level: Repair Technician

Out of warranty: Any repair performed after warranty expiration may be eligible for goodwill consideration by the District Parts and Service Manager or your Zone Office. You must request consideration, and get a decision, before starting work.

REPAIR PROCEDURE

1. Remove the driver's airbag from the steering wheel. Discard the Torx bolts.
   - Refer to page 24-149 of the 2006 Ridgeline Service Manual, or
   - Online, enter keyword **AIRBAG**, and select **Driver's Airbag Replacement** from the list.
   - For an **RTL**, go to step 7.
   - For an **RT** or **RTS**, go to step 2.
2. Remove the steering wheel.
   - Refer to page 17-21 of the 2006 Ridgeline Service Manual, or
   - Online, enter keyword **STEERING WHEEL**, and select **Steering Wheel Removal** from the list.
3. Remove the steering wheel finisher.
   - Refer to page 17-22 of the 2006 Ridgeline Service Manual, or
   - Online, enter keyword **STEERING WHEEL**, and select **Steering Wheel Disassembly/ Reassembly** from the list.
4. Cut three 5 mm x 130 mm strips of wool felt.
5. Clean the portions of the finisher that contact the steering wheel with alcohol, and allow the alcohol to dry.

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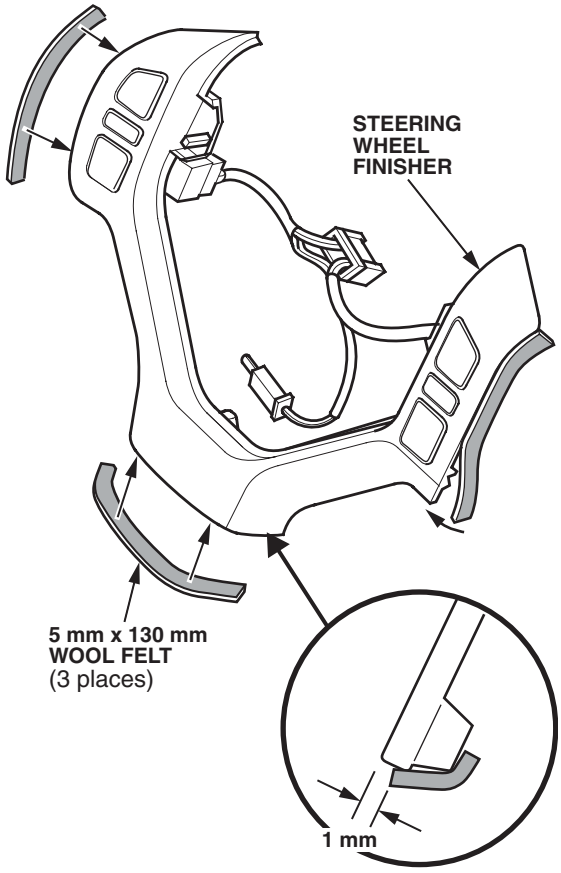
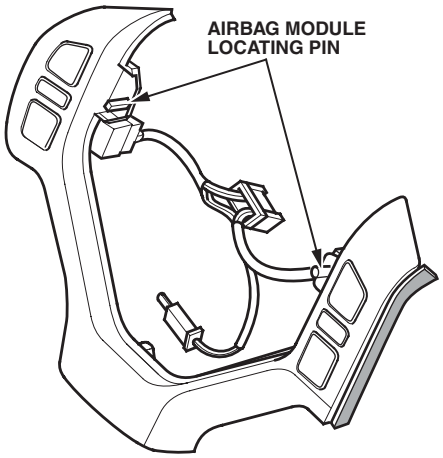
Skill Level
R
REPAIR

CUSTOMER INFORMATION: The information in this bulletin is intended for use only by skilled technicians who have the proper tools, equipment, and training to correctly and safely maintain your vehicle. These procedures should not be attempted by "do-it-yourselfers," and you should not assume this bulletin applies to your vehicle, or that your vehicle has the condition described. To determine whether this information applies, contact an authorized Honda automobile dealer.

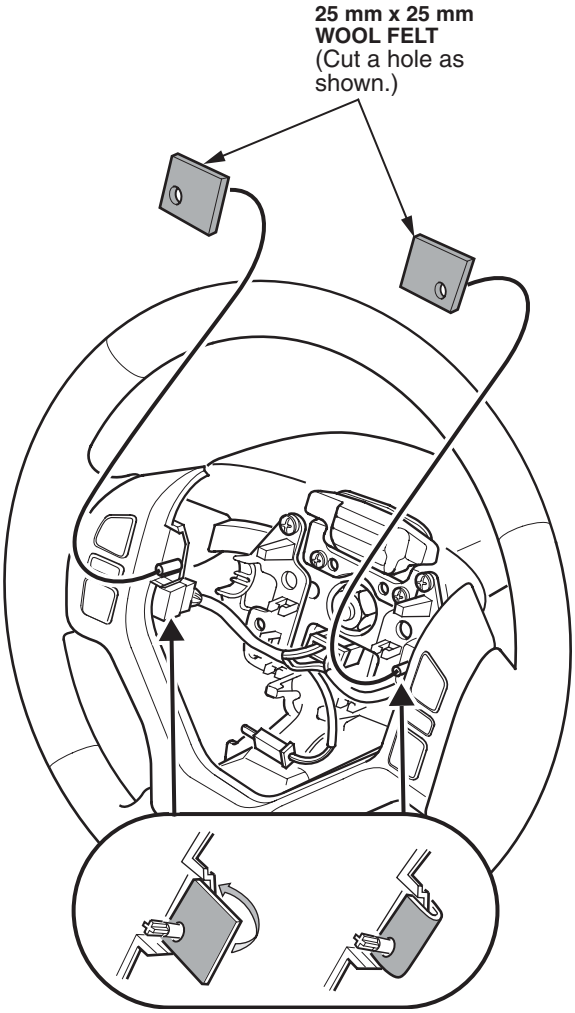
6. Apply the wool felt strips to the finisher. Position the strips about 1 mm from the top edge of the finisher so they are not visible when the finisher is installed. Trim away any excess felt.



7. Inspect the airbag module locating pins on the finisher. If they are chromed, scrape off the chrome carefully with a knife.



8. Cut two 25 mm x 25 mm wool felt squares. Cut holes (or an "X") in the wool felt at the locations shown, large enough for the airbag locating pins to poke through.



9. Clean the felt mounting area on the finisher with alcohol. Let the alcohol dry.
10. Apply the two wool felt squares.
11. Reinstall all removed parts. Torque the steering wheel nut to **49 N·m (36 lb-ft)**. Do **not** overtighten.

    NOTE: Always use new Torx bolts when installing the driver's airbag.